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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to examine data and information related to teacher supply and demand in the State of Montana. To gather current data, a questionnaire was sent to all school and county superintendents. A total of 248 questionnaires were distributed; 169 were returned. The main part of the questionnaire was patterned after an annual report on the supply and demand for new teachers conducted by the Association for School, College, and University Staffing (ASCUS). Respondents were asked first to indicate those teaching areas in which people were hired for the 1994-95 school year, then to indicate whether there was a shortage or a surplus of qualified applicants. The results are presented in the form of graphs for the five regions of the state and by size of school district. Findings suggested considerable or some shortage in all regions in teaching areas of library, music, guidance and counseling, computer science/lab, home economics, and chemistry; and considerable or some surplus in all regions for elementary primary and elementary intermediate teachers. By size of school district, findings also revealed considerable or some shortage in music, Spanish, and guidance and counseling, and considerable or some surplus in elementary primary or elementary intermediate teachers. (ND)

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ED 392 747

Teacher Supply and Demand in Montana

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to examine data and information related to teacher supply and demand in the state of Montana.

PROCEDURES

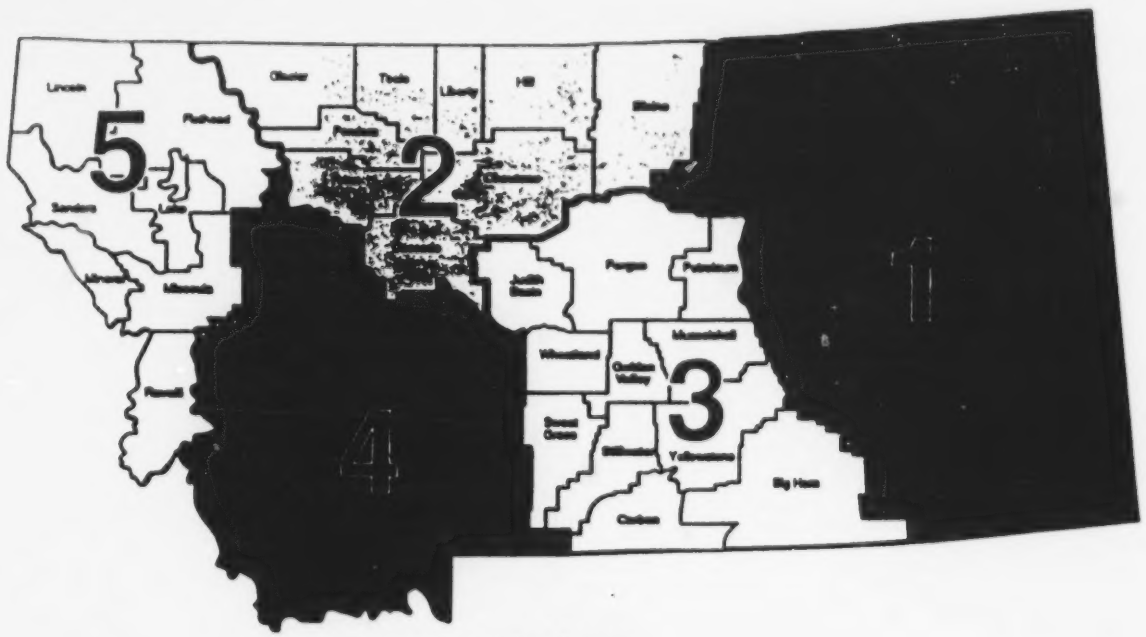
In order to gather current data, a questionnaire was developed and sent to all school superintendents and all county superintendents. County superintendents were asked to respond on behalf of those K-8 districts under their supervision.

The main part of the questionnaire was patterned after an annual report on the supply and demand for new teachers conducted by the Association for School, College and University Staffing (ASCUS). Respondents were first asked to indicate those teaching areas in which people were hired for the 1994-95 school year. In each of these teaching areas, they then indicated whether there was a shortage or surplus of qualified applicants. This was done using a scale of 1 - 5 with 1 = considerable shortage; 2 = some shortage; 3 = balanced supply and demand; 4 = some surplus; and 5 = considerable surplus.

The analysis of the data paralleled that done by ASCUS. A mean was determined for each teaching area and that area was placed into a shortage or supply category. The categories and ranges for mean scores were:

Considerable Shortage	1.00	-	1.75
Some Shortage	1.76	-	2.55
Balanced Supply and Demand	2.56	-	3.35
Some Surplus	3.36	-	4.15
Considerable Surplus	4.16	-	5.00

The results are presented by five regions and by size of school district: AA, A, B, C or K-8. The regions are identified on the map below.



Regions

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RETURNS

A total of 248 questionnaires were mailed. Of these, 169 or 68.1% were returned. The returns by region are presented in Figure 1 and by size of district in Figure 2.

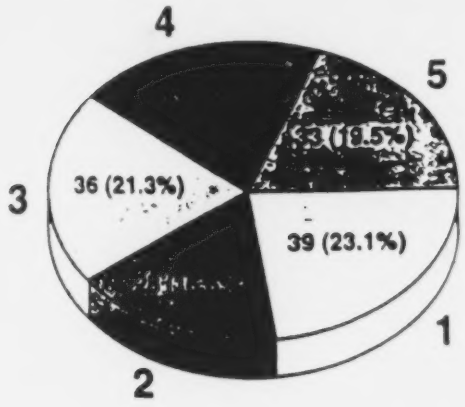

Figure 1: **Returns by Region**

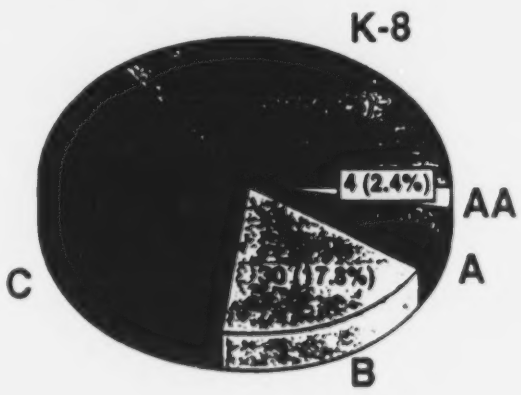

Figure 2: **Returns by Size of District**

HIGHLIGHTS BY REGION AND SIZE OF DISTRICT

For some teaching areas, there are trends across regions and across size of districts. The trends that are clearly identifiable are:

Regions

Considerable or some shortage in all regions:
- Library
- Music
- Guidance & Counseling
- Computer Science/Lab
- Home Economics
- Chemistry

Considerable or some shortage in four of the five regions:
- Special Education (Regions 2-3-4-5)
- Industrial Arts (Regions 1-2-3-5)
- Physics (Regions 1-2-3-5)

Considerable shortage in three of the five regions:
- Agriculture (Regions 1-4-5)
- Spanish (Regions 1-4-5)

Some shortage in four of the five regions:
- Chemistry (Regions 2-3-4-5)

Some shortage in three of the five regions:
- General Science (Regions 1-3-5)
- Traffic Education (Regions 3-4-5)

Balanced supply and demand in four of the five regions:
- Elementary - Middle School (Regions 1-2-4-5)

Considerable or some surplus in all regions:
- Elementary - Primary
- Elementary - Intermediate

District Size

Considerable or some shortage in all sizes:
- Music

Considerable or some shortage in four of five sizes:
- Spanish (Sizes AA-B-C-K8)
- Guidance & Counseling (Sizes A-B-C-K8)

Considerable shortage in three of five sizes:
- Speech-Communications (Sizes B-C-K8)

Some shortage in three of five sizes:
- Special Education (Sizes AA-A-B)
- General Science (Sizes AA-C-K8)

Balanced supply and demand in three of five sizes:
- Elementary - Middle School (Sizes A-B-K8)
- Language Arts (Sizes A-B-C)
- Mathematics (Sizes AA-A-C)
- Physical Science (Sizes AA-B-C)

Considerable or some surplus in all sizes:
- Elementary - Primary
- Elementary - Intermediate

Considerable or some surplus in three of five sizes:
- Social Science (Sizes AA-B-C)

Some surplus in three of five sizes:
- Elementary - Primary (Sizes B-C-K8)
- Elementary - Intermediate (Sizes A-B-K8)

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Region One
Shortage or Surplus of Applicants

Teaching Fields with Considerable Shortage (1.00 - 1.75)

Agriculture
Biology
Chemistry
Earth Science
Guidance and Counseling
Industrial Arts
Library
Music
Physics
Spanish
Speech-Communications

Teaching Fields with Some Shortage (1.76 - 2.55)

Business Education
Computer Science/Lab
Home Economics
PE and Health
General Science

Teaching Fields with Balanced Supply and Demand (2.56 - 3.35)

Art
Elementary - Middle School
Language Arts
Special Education

Teaching Fields with Some Surplus (3.36 - 4.15)

Elementary - Primary
Elementary - Intermediate
History
Mathematics
Social Science

Teaching Fields with Considerable Surplus (4.16 - 5.00)

None

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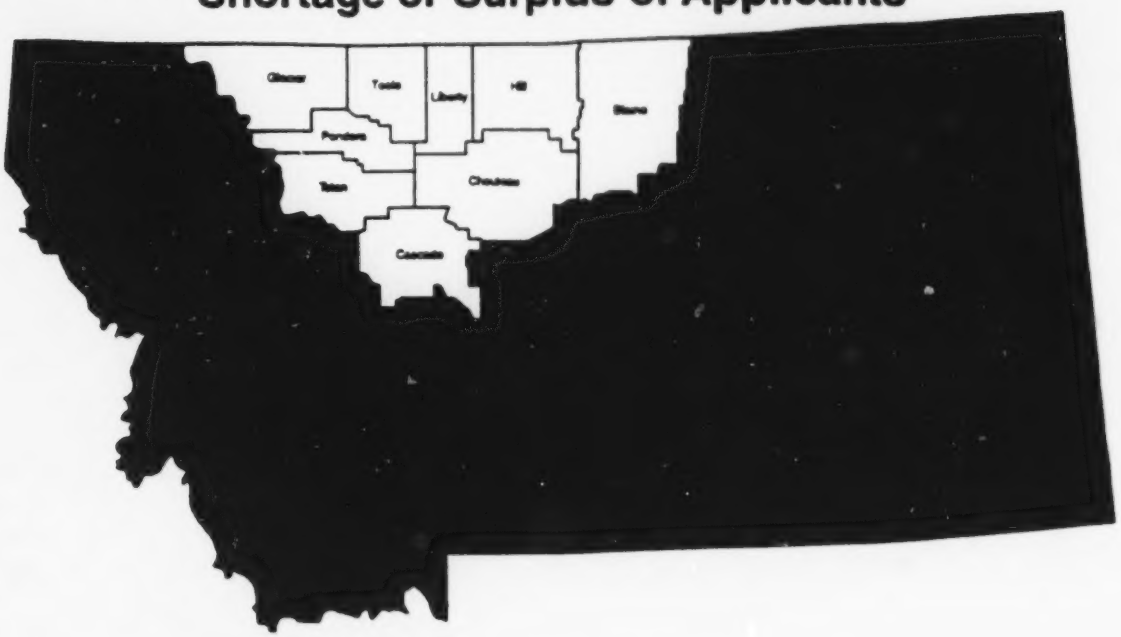
Region Two
Shortage or Surplus of Applicants



Teaching Fields with Considerable Shortage (1.00 - 1.75)

Computer Science/Lab
English as a Second Language
Home Economics
Library
Music
Special Education
Technology Education

Teaching Fields with Some Shortage (1.76 - 2.55)

Art
Biology
Chemistry
Language Arts
Guidance and Counseling
History
Industrial Arts
Mathematics
Physics

Teaching Fields with Balanced Supply and Demand (2.56 - 3.35)

Earth Science
Elementary - Middle School
Physical Science
General Science

Teaching Fields with Some Surplus (3.36 - 4.15)

Elementary - Intermediate

Teaching Fields with Considerable Surplus (4.16 - 5.00)

Elementary - Primary
PE and Health

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Region Three
Shortage or Surplus of Applicants

Teaching Fields with Considerable Shortage (1.00 - 1.75)

Art
Home Economics
PE and Health
Technology Education
Trade and Industry

Teaching Fields with Some Shortage (1.76 - 2.55)

Biology
Business Education
Chemistry
Computer Science/Lab
Earth Science
Elementary - Middle School
Guidance and Counseling
Industrial Arts
Library
Mathematics
Music
Physical Science
Physics
General Science
Special Education
Traffic Education

Teaching Fields with Balanced Supply and Demand (2.56 - 3.35)

Agriculture
Spanish

Teaching Fields with Some Surplus (3.36 - 4.15)

Elementary - Primary
Elementary - Intermediate
Language Arts

Teaching Fields with Considerable Surplus (4.16 - 5.00)

History

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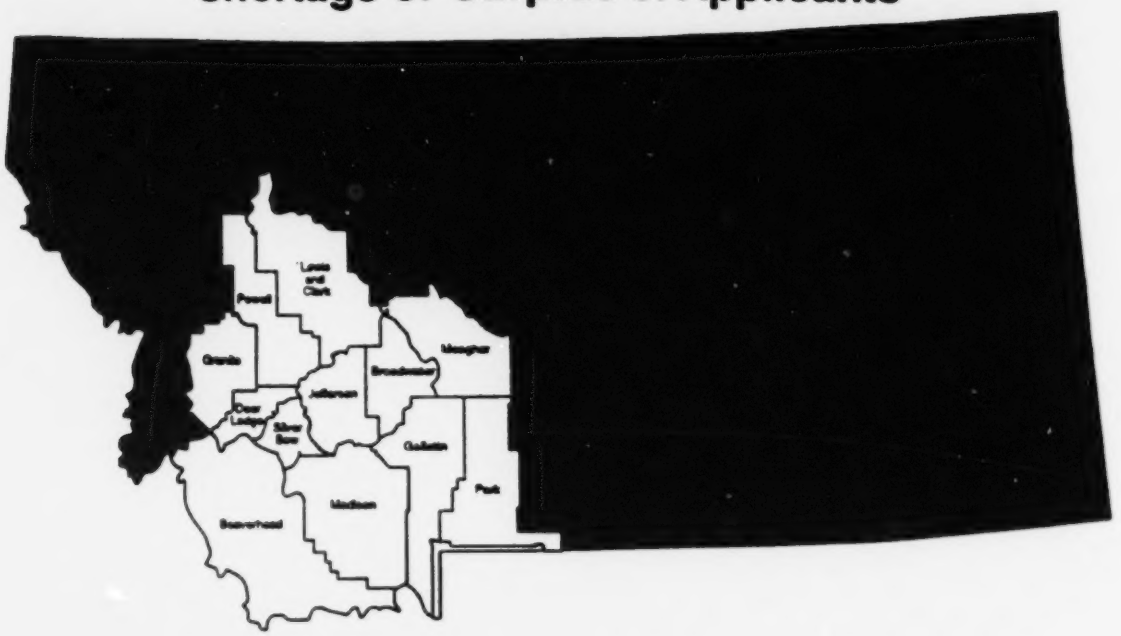
Region Four
Shortage or Surplus of Applicants



Teaching Fields with Considerable Shortage (1.00 - 1.75)

Agriculture
English as a Second Language
Guidance and Counseling
Music
Spanish
Special Education

Teaching Fields with Some Shortage (1.76 - 2.55)

Chemistry
Computer Science/Lab
French
Home Economics
Library
Psychology
Speech-Communications
Traffic Education

Teaching Fields with Balanced Supply and Demand (2.56 - 3.35)

Art
Biology
Drama
Earth Science
Elementary - Middle School
Industrial Arts
Mathematics
Physical Science
Reading
General Science
Technology Education
Trade and Industry

Teaching Fields with Some Surplus (3.36 - 4.15)

Business Education
Language Arts
History
Physics

Teaching Fields with Considerable Surplus (4.16 - 5.00)

Elementary - Primary
Elementary - Intermediate
PE and Health
Social Science

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Region Five
Shortage or Surplus of Applicants

Teaching Fields with Considerable Shortage (1.00 - 1.75)

Agriculture
Computer Science/Lab
Drama
German
Home Economics
Industrial Arts
Music
Spanish
Speech-Communications

Teaching Fields with Some Shortage (1.76 - 2.55)

Business Education
Chemistry
Guidance and Counseling
Library
Mathematics
Physics
Reading
Special Education
General Science
Traffic Education

Teaching Fields with Balanced Supply and Demand (2.56 - 3.35)

Art
Biology
Earth Science
Elementary - Middle School
Language Arts
History
Psychology
Social Science

Teaching Fields with Some Surplus (3.36 - 4.15)

PE and Health
Physical Science

Teaching Fields with Considerable Surplus (4.16 - 5.00)

Elementary - Primary
Elementary - Intermediate

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Shortage or Surplus of Applicants by Size of District

Teaching Field	AA	A	B	C	K—8
Agriculture			--	—	
Art					
Biology	•	•		—	
Business Education					
Chemistry	—			—	
Computer Science/Lab					
Drama			—		•
Earth Science	•	•	++	—	
Economics					
Elementary					
Primary					
Intermediate	++	+	+	++	+
Middle School					
Language Arts	++	•	•	•	--
ESL	--				
French					
Geography					
German					
Guidance & Counseling	•	--	—	--	--
History					
Home Economics	—	—	--	--	
Industrial Arts	—		--	—	
Journalism					
Library	—		—	--	--
Mathematics					
Music	--	—	--	--	--
Physical Science					
Physics				—	
Psychology					
General Science			--	—	—
Sociology					
Spanish	—		--	—	--
Speech-Communication	+			--	--
Trade and Industry	•			—	

Legend

--	considerable shortage
—	some shortage
•	balance
+	some surplus
++	considerable surplus

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